

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A modular door trim panel assembly comprising:

a molded substrate having a first side defining an A-side surface that is visible from the interior of an automotive vehicle and a second side opposite said first side that defines a B-side surface adjacent a vehicle door, said substrate including at least one aperture adapted to receive a door trim panel component, a pair of side terminal edges and a lower terminal edge extending therebetween;

at least one seal that is co-molded while said substrate is formed and bonded to said B-side of said substrate, said seal extending substantially parallel to said pair of side terminal edges and said lower terminal edge of said substrate and adapted to prevent the entry of moisture between said B-side of said substrate and the vehicle door, and

wherein said seal is made of a polymer material suitable for use within an injection mold that maintains a flexible quality when cured.

2. (Original) A modular door trim panel assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said seal extends from said B-side surface to a vehicle door to sealingly contact a predetermined area of the vehicle door.

3. (Original) A modular door trim panel assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein a portion of said pair of side terminal edges and said lower terminal edge are contoured to receive said seal and facilitate contact between said seal and the vehicle door.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A modular door trim panel assembly as set forth in claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1 further ~~including~~includes at least one door trim panel component disposed within said aperture and mounted to said molded substrate, said door trim panel component having at least one surface visible from the interior of an automotive vehicle.

7. (Currently amended) A modular door trim panel assembly as set forth in claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1 further ~~including~~includes a second seal that is co-molded while said substrate is formed and bonded to said B-side of said substrate, said second seal extending substantially around said aperture and adapted to prevent the entry of moisture between said B-side of said substrate and the vehicle door through said aperture.

8. (Original) A modular door trim panel assembly as set forth in claim 7 wherein said second seal extends from said B-side surface to a vehicle door to sealingly contact a predetermined area of the vehicle door adjacent said aperture.

9. (Previously amended) A modular door trim panel assembly as set forth in claim 7 wherein said second seal is made of a polymer material suitable for use within an injection mold that maintains a flexible quality when cured.

10. (Currently amended) A vehicle door assembly comprising:

a door frame adapted to be pivotally mounted to an automotive vehicle body, said door frame having a first surface facing the interior of an automotive vehicle and a second surface opposite said first surface;

a modular door trim panel secured to said first surface of said door frame, said modular door trim panel including a molded substrate having a first side defining an A-side surface that is visible from the interior of an automotive vehicle and a second side opposite said first side that defines a B-side surface adjacent said first surface of said door frame, said substrate including at least one aperture adapted to receive a door trim panel component, a pair of side terminal edges and a lower terminal edge extending therebetween, said modular door further including at least one seal that is co-molded while said substrate is formed and bonded to said B-side of said substrate, said seal extending substantially parallel to said pair of side terminal edges and said lower terminal edge of said substrate and adapted to prevent the entry of moisture between said B-side of said substrate and said door frame, and

wherein said seal is made of a polymer material suitable for use within an injection mold that maintains a flexible quality when cured.

11. (Previously amended) A vehicle door assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein said seal extends from said B-side surface to said door frame to sealingly contact said first surface of said door frame.

12. (Previously amended) A vehicle door assembly as set forth in claim 10 wherein a portion of said pair of side terminal edges and said lower terminal edge are contoured to receive said seal and facilitate contact between said seal and said first surface of said door frame.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15 (Currently amended) A vehicle door assembly as set forth in claim ~~[[14]]~~10 further ~~including~~includes at least one door trim panel component disposed within said aperture and mounted to said substrate, said door trim panel component having at least one surface visible from the interior of an automotive vehicle.

16. (Currently amended) A vehicle door assembly as set forth in claim ~~[[14]]~~10 further ~~including~~includes a second seal that is co-molded while said substrate is formed and bonded to said B-side of said substrate, said second seal extending substantially around said aperture and adapted to prevent the entry of moisture between said B-side of said substrate and said door frame through said aperture.

17. (Previously amended) A vehicle door assembly as set forth in claim 16 wherein said second seal extends from said B-side surface to said door frame to sealingly contact said first surface of said door frame adjacent said aperture.

18. (Previously amended) A vehicle door assembly as set forth in claim 16 wherein said second seal is made of a polymer material suitable for use within an injection mold that maintains a flexible quality when cured.

19. (Withdrawn)

20. (Withdrawn)